

SANTA CLARA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY, Inc.
Chapter 0515 of the National Audubon Society
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The Avocet

TIME VALUE

ALAN EISNER
3538 FARM HILL BLVD APT 4
REDWOOD CITY CA 94061

Volume 28, Number 9

November 1981

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Please call Manette Wittgenstein, 354-9420, and Dolores Norton, 941-1666, or if no answer, the leader if you can give a ride or if you want a ride.

- Nov. 3 Board of Directors Meeting, Tuesday, 7:30 PM at the home of Joe Wissel, 2431 Villa Nueva Way, Mt. View. Members welcome.
- Nov. 10 Bird Discussion Group, Tuesday, 9:30 AM, at the home of Eve Case, 20537 Verde Vista Lane, Saratoga. Topic: "Juncos."
- Nov. 11 Field Trip South, Wednesday, 9 AM, Los Gatos Creek County Park (Campbell Perculation Ponds). Take Winchester to Hacienda (from Los Gatos--right turn, from Campbell left). Turn left on Dell and right at park entrance bordering large pond. Meet in small parking lot beside picnic tables. Excellent for ducks, grebes, herons, and last year on this walk, an osprey. Leader: Jo Pettit, 266-5118. Call Manette Wittgenstein for rides, 354-9420.
- Nov. 14 Mt. Madonna Owl Trip, Saturday--this will be a night trip to look for Screech and Saw-whet owls. The numbers (of people) are limited, so please call leader for details. Leader: David Moore, 293-7124.
- Nov. 15 Boat Trip, Sunday, 7:45 AM, Monterey Bay. Depart from Fisherman's Wharf, return 3 PM. \$22.00 per person. Reserve with check payable to Debbi Love Shearwater, 362 Lee Street, Santa Cruz 95060, (408) 425-8111. Enclose self-addressed, stamped envelope for confirmation. Leaders: Alan Baldridge, Jeri Langham.
- Nov. 18 Field Trip North, Wednesday, 9 AM, Coyote Hills Regional Park. East across Dumbarton Bridge, left at Jarvis Ave., left at Newark Blvd. In about one mile, turn left at the sign to the park. Notice: this is the third Wednesday of the

month, not fourth. Meet at first parking lot on the right. Lunch is optional, but if you plan to bird in the afternoon, bring some sort of a snack. Leader: Phil Hand, 851-2623.

- Nov. 18 General Meeting, Wednesday, 7:30 PM. Our program will be presented by Doug Cheeseman and will feature "Predators and Raptors of the Serengeti and other parts of East Africa." The meeting place is the Lucy Evans Baylands Interpretive Center, at the east end of Embarcadero Rd. in Palo Alto. Please see note in this AVOCET for more details. A portion of this program will be devoted to National Audubon's Citizen Mobilization Campaign.
- Nov. 21 Pigeon Point Field Trip, Saturday, 8 AM. To look for Alcids, then to Pebble Beach and Princeton Harbor to Look for shorebirds and others. Please call leader for meeting place and other details. Leader: Clark Blake, 948-6058.
- Nov. 28 Bicycle Trip with Cheeseman Family to see Monarch Butterflies, Saturday, 9 AM. For those who may not know, Monarch Butterflies congregate in certain areas on the California coast each fall; it's regarded as an entomological as well as a cultural event. Meet at the lighthouse on West Cliff Drive in Santa Cruz. From Hiway 1 north, turn left on West Cliff Drive. This will be a family bicycle trip from Natural Bridges to the U.C. Marine Lab. Bring lunch, water, bike lock and--oh yes--your bike. If directions aren't clear, call the leader(s): Doug, Gail, Teddy and Rosie Cheeseman, 867-1371.
- Nov. 26 Thanksgiving; all day--and you do have much to be thankful for.
- Nov. 29 Mt. Madonna Owl Trip, Sunday, very early morning trip to look for Pygmy, Saw-whet, and Screech Owls. Trip numbers limited, so please call leaders for details. Leaders: David Moore and Vicki Silvas-Young, 293-7124.
- Dec. 5 Boat Trip, Saturday, Monterey Bay. Please see Nov. 15 trip for details. Leaders: Bill Reese and Don Roberson.
- Dec. 9 Field Trip South, Wednesday, 9 AM, Sanborn Park. From Saratoga, west on Big Basin Way to Saratoga Springs Resort, left on Sanborn Rd. one mile, right into parking lot. We hope to find Varied Thrush and other wintering species. Leader: Juliette Wheeler, 867-9597.

Tell us how you want to help

THAT NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING

As mentioned in the calendar, November's General meeting will feature Doug Cheeseman's photographic slides, with an emphasis on the cats, canids (such as jackals, wild dogs, foxes), and birds of prey. Doug's presentation will detail strategies for survival. Doug and Gail Cheeseman are old African hands; they will be leading their 5th trip to the area in summer 1982.

Part of the evening's program will be used for Audubon's Citizen Mobilization Campaign. Here is a short summary of Audubon's intentions--

The National Audubon Society was organized at the turn of the century to stop the slaughter of plumed birds whose feathers were used to adorn ladies' hats. Working

together, these early conservationists stopped the "plume hunters" and saved the birds from extinction.

Today a new breed of plume hunters, as short-sighted and self-seeking as ever, has declared war on environmental protection. Under the pretense of eliminating government waste and ending inflation, the Reagan Administration, led by Secretary of the Interior James Watt, is attempting to reverse two decades of progress in protecting our birds and other wild animals and the air, land, water, and forests on which all life depends.

To counter this attack, the National Audubon Society has launched an emergency Citizen Mobilization Campaign. You can join the campaign at no cost to yourself and at great benefit to your natural heritage.

Sign up and be kept informed. The Audubon Society will notify you of current threats to our air and water, wilderness and wildlife, parks and forests. And we'll let you know how you can help defeat the modern-day plume hunters.

Please come on November 18 with your friends. We need all the friends we can get!

MARIN HEADLANDS HAWK MIGRATION TRIP - Oct. 3, 1981

Don Schmoldt

Only 5 people showed up for what turned out to be a spectacular day! Those who felt they didn't want to brave the elements (it did rain all night), missed out on the best hawk viewing I have had in four years! Prior to viewing the hawks, we took advantage of the mild, clear weather to look for vagrants at Rodeo Lagoon. We were rewarded with a Blackburnian Warbler. At bunker 129, we spent three hours watching 134 hawks fly over, including 23 Turkey Vultures, 46 Sharp-shinned Hawks, 25 Cooper's Hawks, 5 Accipiter, spp., 23 Red-tailed Hawks (including one dark phase bird), 4 Red-shouldered Hawks, 4 Broad-Winged Hawks, 2 Northern Harriers, and 2 Am. Kestrels. Other treats included 30+ Black Swifts (flying with Vaux's Swifts), Say's Phoebe, and a partially albino cormorant, spp. The cormorant had white underparts, and dark wings and tail! It was flying in formation with about 15 other large cormorants, spp. In all, 69 species of birds were seen.

CHARLESTON SLOUGH PROJECT

Bill Bousman

As part of an agreement to return tidal flow to Charleston Slough, the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society has agreed to monitor the bird populations in the slough. The project was organized by David Houle and has benefitted from the active census efforts of Mary Lou Burgin, Ray Schmuck, Dick Stovel, Gloria Heller and myself. Construction of a new pipe and gates started last winter and the water level started dropping in February. By spring extensive mud flats were exposed and remain so now. The new gates require adjustment to provide for a proper tidal flow, but to date very little water is being allowed through. The slough is very much in a period of transition, and until the tidal flow is properly set, we will not expect any stability in the bird populations. The census activities have recorded many uncommon and rare species including Little Blue Heron, Blue-winged Teal, Lesser Yellowlegs, Ruddy Turnstone, Glaucous Gull, Least and Elegant Terns, and a Sage thrasher. Although the rarities make for excitement, the long term value of the study is what it tells us about the populations of the more common species. We need more volunteers to help census the slough. Typically each project member visits the slough about once a month, spending about two hours surveying the slough. A telescope is probably essential. If you are interested in helping out, please contact: Bill Bousman, 322-5282.

Sometimes rarities appear in habitats we usually don't think of birding. Disturbed pastures, fallow field, horse paddocks are sometimes attractive to Golden and Mountain Plovers, and also the Longspurs. If Longspurs are ever found in Santa Clara County it will probably be in a habitat like this. If you have an area nearby like this, check it out once in a while. Look for flocks of pipits and horned larks and see if there is a stranger among them.

Blue-Winged Teal have returned to their Palo Alto Baylands haunts with few males there 29 Sept. A Harlequin Duck continues to be seen at Ano Nuevo SR with one reported on the Birdathon on 26 Sept by Dick Stovel (DS), et al. The most exciting find of the month were two adult California Condors seen flying on the Santa Clara-Stanislaus County line in Henry Coe SP by Barry Breckling (BB), a park ranger there. Immature golden eagles are sometimes confused for condors, however, the people working in Henry Coe SP become very familiar with the golden eagles as they are residents in the park. The Diablo Range is historically part of the condor's northern range, but this is the first sighting since the Stanford sub-adult seen in 1971. Prairie Falcons have also been reported from the vicinity of Henry Coe SP in the last month (BB). Lesser Yellowlegs have been seen locally with 2 at Charleston Slough on 11 Sept. (Charleston Slough Project-CSP), and 2 others at Moffett Field 12 Sept. In addition, one remained at Pescadero Marsh and was seen 26 Sept (DS et al.). A Sanderling at Charleston Slough 18 Sept (CSP) is rare at any time this far south in the bay. Pectoral Sandpipers were well reported locally with 2 at Moffett Field on 15 Sept. and 2 at Searsville Lake on 20 Sept. One of the latter was still there through 25 Sept (Bill & Jean Clark - B&JC). A single bird was at Ano Nuevo on 26 Sept. (DS, et al.). The expectation that Elegant Terns would be recorded in Santa Clara County during a good flight year was confirmed with three found at Charleston Slough on 11 Sept. (CSP). This appears to be the first county record for this species. A Golden-crowned Kinglet in Alum Rock Park 26 Sept. (DS et al.) is early. A belated report of a Phamopepia from Jasper Ridge (Bill Clark) on 27 June is only the third record for San Mateo County. A MacGillivray's Warbler in Alum Rock Park 26 Sept. (DS et al.) is a late migrant. Three Lawrence's Goldfinches were at Searsville Lake 7 Sept (B&JC). Although this species were fairly common along Skyline this spring, none were reported after early July. A Lincoln's Sparrow at Moffett Field 15 Sept. was an early return, less expected was one in residential Palo Alto in the last week in September (DS).

If you see an "uncommon to rare" please call me or drop me a note. Bill Bousman, 321 Arlington Way, Menlo Park, CA 94025 (322-5282).

WOW!!!

Phyllis Swanson

Sound the trumpets! Play the drums!! I am so excited, I could turn handsprings! SCVAS has hired a part-time staff person. She's Lindsley Beach--a familiar face on our field trips. She is very knowledgeable about Audubon and birds; I am sure she'll be a fantastic addition to our chapter. Lindsley will answer our phone at the Peninsula Conservation Center from 9 to 1, Monday through Thursday, so direct your questions to her at (415) 328-5313. Lindsley's other duties will include filing, keeping our membership lists up to date, interfacing with the PCC and generally taking a lot of pressure off the rest of us volunteers.

Can you blame me for being enthusiastic? I know we'll all work more efficiently in the long run with a paid staff person to help us. Audubon should profit because the rest of us will be able to devote our energies to our goals, so join me in welcoming Lindsley. Hip, Hip, Hooray!

AUDUBON WORKSHOP GOALS

Last month a group of SCVAS members met at Hidden Villa Ranch to set goals for the coming year. Goal setting is a process whereby everyone's Audubon aspirations (or inspirations) are boiled down into some attainable form. All of us want to "help preserve Mono Lake," for instance, but a goal forces one to put that into concrete terms--what are you going to do, by when will you do it, etc.

We'll list below a series of "intention statements" followed by some of the goals to achieve. We'll also list the person to contact should you be interested in working on that project.

"Develop an effective communication and interaction network with local conservation groups and media."

1. By May 31, 1982, we will contact all bay area Audubon societies and other bay area conservation organizations and public agencies for reciprocal publication privileges of mutually important information.
2. By May 31, 1982, we will contact four newspapers, one radio, and one television station in the bay area to air an article or program on selected conservation topics.

CALL: Tom Dargan

"To develop our ability to have political impact on environmental issues."

1. Our goal is to sponsor a conference on the Peripheral Canal in March 1982 to hear both sides of the issues.
2. Our goal is to establish a hotline Newsletter, single page, to be sent to Board of Supervisors, city councils, representatives, etc. on bimonthly basis regarding environmental issues.
3. Our goal to hold field trips to Bair Island for San Mateo Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission, and home owner groups as soon as possible, coordinating with Sequoia Audubon.
4. Our goal is to hold Candidates Night prior to next election to ascertain these positions on our environmental concerns.
5. To develop a monitoring system on issues.

CALL: Lindsley Beach

"To develop and implement a comprehensive EE program utilizing a variety of educational techniques."

1. By Spring 1982 SCVAS will finance 20 days of substitute pay for 20 Santa Clara Co. elementary school teachers to attend one day of a two day EE workshop (the remaining day paid for by matching funds and/or teacher or school district). This will be held at S. F. Bay NWR.

The purpose of the workshop is to provide teachers with dynamite lessons and activities to be used with their classes at the Refuge and at their school.

CALL: Courtenay Dawson-Roberts, Sr.

Bair Island and Mono Lake - "To focus local efforts on Bair Island and Mono Lake."

1. Contact the PCC B.I. Coalition person and ask that a presentation be made at the Oct. meeting--Done.

2. Contact Sequoia Audubon to see what they are doing, or to see if they will join us in our efforts at Oct. meeting--Done.
3. Create a B.I. subcommittee of conservation comm. (through an article in AVOCET and from Board) at Dec. board meeting.

CALL: Sue Formenti or Linda Newberry

1. Contact MLC to determine their financial needs by Oct. meeting--Done.
2. Agenda item to determine if we will have a fundraiser in 1982--Done.
3. Coordinate annual field trip with 1982 Bucket Brigade.
4. Suggest at Oct. meeting to purchase copies of Mono Lake Guide Bk. (in blocks of 25) to be sold at general meetings.
5. Mono Lake general meeting by end of 1982.

CALL: Jim Liskovec or Allen Royer
251-6133

"To increase membership, including youth and minorities, and to increase the participation of members in SCVAS activities."

1. By January 1982, we will establish a procedure for contacting new and lapsed members.
2. By June 1982, we will increase our membership by 5%.
3. By November 1981, we'll have a job description for General Meeting Hosts. Include introduction, new members to Audubon.
4. By June 1982 we'll increase member participation 5%.

CALL: Cheryl Woodward

"To develop and implement a diverse field trip program."

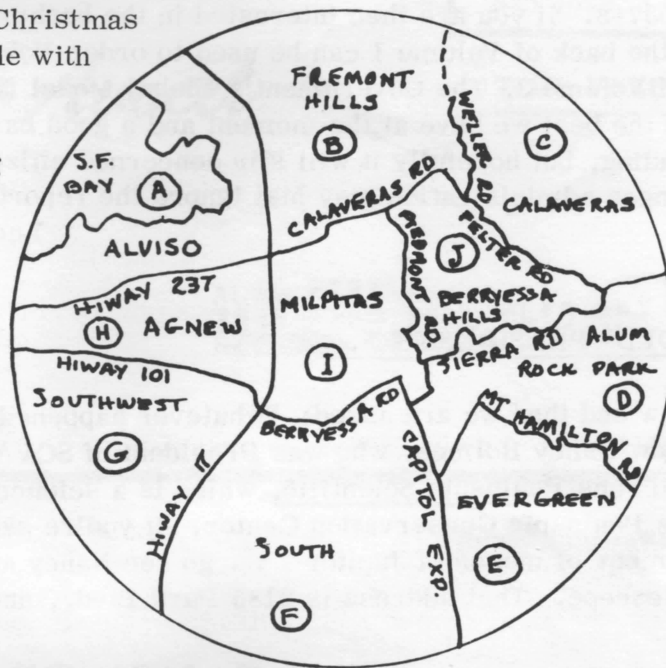
1. To formally establish by June 1, 1982, a "field trip committee" consisting of the field trip organizers, which shall meet at an appropriate time before the start of each season to coordinate their activities for that season, using input from all those with information, suggestions, or prior experience.
2. In order to increase more active participation in field trips and to determine the talents and interests of the membership, establish by Oct. 1, 1981, a procedure for circulating a sign-in list at the start of each trip, asking for the name, address, phone #, and special interests of each participant.
3. To establish, by June 1, 1982, a diversified field trip program to include: (a) trips covering other aspects of nature, such as plant life or geology, using docents and/or rangers when available; (b) trips with other organizations when appropriate; (c) bus trips; and (d) trips encouraging beginners and families.

CALL: Frank Farran 252-3874

More important than all of the words above is the help you may give the chapter. We really need it. These are trying times for all of us; everyone seems to be busy and hassled. Please pick one or more areas where you think you could be effective and call the person mentioned; everyone's name and number is on the last page of this AVOCET. I hope everyone notices that that list of Directors, Officers, and particularly Chairpeople is getting longer; by June we may pass the Manhattan phone book in names. When that happens it will be because you cared, called, and did--then indeed "we shall overcome."

THE 1981 SAN JOSE CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Mark your calendar--the SCVAS-sponsored Christmas Bird Count (CBC) will be held on Sunday, December 20, 1981. Take a look at the accompanying map and pick an area; the December AVOCET will list the leaders of the various sections. If you're new to SCVAS, we generally tally some 150+ species for the day, in a wide variety of habitats. If you're new to Christmas Counts, please don't let that stop you. People with all levels of birding experience are needed--last year almost 100 people counted. Again, be sure to mark December 20 for an exciting day of counting, followed by a fabulous dinner. For more information, call: Jim Liskovec, (415) 969-5542, San Jose CBC Compiler.



DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

SNEAKING UP ON ANIMALS

LOS ANGELES TO MONO LAKE BIKE-A-THON

Terry Hart

I made the grade! Along with ten other Mono maniacs, I pedaled up Sherwin Grade to Mammoth Lakes, the steepest part of the ride from Los Angeles to Mono Lake. For five and a half days we cycled across mountains and desert greeting television, radio and newspaper media to spread the word about Mono Lake. On September 1st we departed from smoggy downtown L. A. After a press conference in front of the Department of Water and Power offices, each cyclist secured a vial of water to their bicycle before beginning the three hundred and fifty mile journey north. This symbolic gesture was done to protest the diversion of water from the Mono Lake Basin.

The first seventy miles were the toughest for me. I must admit to never having done any long distance cycling before and was feeling all the bumps on the road as we rolled into Palmdale, searching for Motel 6.

As the air quality improved so did our spirits. We whizzed through the desert to Inyokern where we spent a memorable night in the city park. Do rotating automatic sprinklers mean anything to you? Can you picture twelve people and one black laborador (Sierra) dashing madly about at 2 AM with bicycles, sleeping bags and gear? How about at 4 AM? The sun dried us quickly as we pedaled to Lone Pine where we stayed at the residence of Lois Wilson. Sixty miles later found us camped on the lawn of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church in Bishop.

The grand finale came as we cycled into Lee Vining to join the bucket brigade. We pedaled to the lakeshore, removed our vials of L. A. water and ceremoniously poured the contents into Mono Lake.

The bike-a-thon raised about \$10,000 on Mono's behalf. Many SCVAS members sponsored me with pledges. Knowing I had your support made the ride easier. The ride was a wonderful adventure and I heartily encourage SCVAS to join us next September.

The Global 2000 Report to the President should be read by everyone concerned with our environment and what it may be like at the end of the century. Volume 1 is The Summary Report, available at \$3.50 from the Government Printing Office, Room 1023, Federal Building, 450 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102. Ask for S/N 041-011-00037-8. If you are then interested in the background to the summary, the order form in the back of Volume 1 can be used to order Volume 2, The Technical Report (\$13.00), and Volume 3, The Government's Global Model (\$8.00). These are not perfect reports, but the best we have at the moment and a good base for future studies. This is depressing reading, but hopefully it will stir concerned citizens into action. Unless we speak up, the Reagan administration may just ignore the report.

Lee Lovelady (408) 448-3460

"OLD" PRESIDENTS . . .

Now and then we are asked: "whatever happened to . . . somebody." Many of our members know Nancy Holmes, who was President of SCVAS from about 1973-1977. Nancy now owns and runs Peninsula Scientific, which is a science supply store right down the street from the Peninsula Conservation Center. If you're skeptical about those rings on Saturn or the number of moons of Jupiter . . . go see Nancy about a celestial (as opposed to ornithological) telescope. That address is 2185 Park Blvd., and the phone number is 326-4136.

THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

OFFICERS

President:	Phyllis Swanson, 1899 Mtn. Creek Ct., San Jose 95148	274-2349
1st Vice President:	Linda Newberry, 7550 St. Joseph Ave., Los Altos 94022	967-1156
2nd Vice President:	Jim Liskovec, 1719 Christina Dr., Los Altos 94022	969-5542
Treasurer:	Sue Liskovec, 1719 Christina Dr., Los Altos 94022	969-5542
Recording Secy.:	Betty Wyatt, 5524 Bigoak Dr., San Jose 95129	255-6091
Correspondence Secy:	Dave Nauer, 3684 Sweigert Rd., San Jose 95131	259-1283

DIRECTORS

Sue Formenti, 16675 Buckskin Ct., Morgan Hill 95037	779-8694
Terry Hart, 1509 Klamath Dr., Sunnyvale 94087	245-2673
Bob Garcia, 353 Beemer Ave., Sunnyvale 94086	730-1234
Elaine Gould, 2485 Richland Ave., San Jose 95125	448-0622
Donna Zetterquist, 55 Mtn. Springs Dr., Santa Cruz 95060	429-9716
Mary Hallesy, 1246 Emerson, Palo Alto 94301	327-4822
Courtenay Dawson-Roberts, Jr., 2914 Emerson, Palo Alto 94306	327-5746
Joe Wissel, 2431 Villa Nueva Way, Mountain View 94040	967-0587

CHAIRPERSONS

Membership:	Linsley Beach, 85 E. Taylor #6, San Jose 95112	322-7717
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Education:	Courtenay Dawson-Roberts, 2914 Emerson St., Palo Alto 94306	327-5746
Library:	Courtenay Dawson-Roberts, Jr., 2914 Emerson St., P. A. 94306	327-5746
Publicity:	Tom Dargan, 1130 Starbird Circle, San Jose	249-9388
Field Trips:	David Moore & Vicki Silvas-Young, 469 Shepherd Ave., S.J. 95125	293-7124
	Dolores Norton, 73 View St., Los Altos 94022	941-1666
	Manette Wittgenstein, 15355 Bellecourt, Saratoga 95070	354-9420
Land Stewardship:	Carol Anderson, H-29 Koshland, UCSC, Santa Cruz 95064	425-3605
Grants:	Kep Stone, 2526 Amaryl Dr., San Jose 95132	251-2186
Field Notes:	Bill Bousman, 321 Arlington Way, Menlo Park 94035	322-5282

Yes, I want to join the National Audubon Society

Enroll me as a member, start my subscription to AUDUBON, and send me my membership card which entitles me to all the benefits and privileges of National Audubon Society membership.

*Please affiliate with Chapter 0515
Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society*

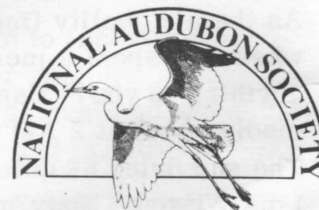
NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- Check membership category desired:
- Individual/\$25
 - Family/\$32
 - Senior Citizen/\$17
 - Student/\$15
 - Check enclosed
 - Please bill me



950 Third Avenue
New York, New York 10022

*do it
now*